

ZILKER
METROPOLITAN
PARK
VISION PLAN

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND GOALS



GUIDING PRINCIPLES



- The plan should be forward-looking and should embrace both its challenges and its opportunities for future generations.

Guide Future Growth



- The plan should treat the Park as an ecological treasure.
- Recognize the park's relation to water and explore opportunities for interaction with the lake without compromising environmental integrity.

Nature and Ecology



- The park is a metropolitan park which has a regional draw and focus.
- The plan should treat the Park's historic and cultural resources as a valued legacy to be celebrated for future generations.

History and Culture



- Zilker Park should serve the entire community of Austin.
- Align programs with community interest.

Diversity and Inclusion



- The plan should knit the segmented pieces of the park together, ensuring a more accessible, safe and connected park— north and south sides of Barton Springs Road, north and south shores of Lady Bird Lake, east and west sides of Barton Creek, east and west sides of MoPac.
- The park is a place you can arrive to by multiple travel options.

Accessibility



- The plan should champion sustainability best-practices for the Park.
- Zilker Park should serve as an example of sustainability, protecting and enhancing our natural spaces and assets.

Sustainability



GOALS



Nature and Ecology

- Protect, enhance, and restore land and waterscapes.
- Establish an interpretive program to educate visitors about the park's sensitive features. Public stewardship should be developed as part of the interpretive program.
- Champion best practices in green design, planning and land management.
- Ensure safe and sustainable access to the water including entry to Lady Bird Lake and protection of Barton Creek.
- Protect Zilker's natural resources for generations to come.



GOALS



Diversity and Inclusion

- Welcoming to individuals, small groups and able to accommodate large groups.
- The Plan should support equitable access, with special focus on:
 - Safety
 - Accessibility
 - Diverse events and programming
 - Connectivity
- Support new and enhance existing learning opportunities within the park.



GOALS



History and Culture

- Honor and respect the Park's historic and cultural resources, and should integrate them into the future life of the park.
- Provide a successful balance between historic preservation and current/future needs.
- Tell the stories of the people and the history of the park to better enrich the visitor experience.
- Create opportunities for local artists and art to be a part of park spaces. These opportunities may include music, performance and temporary exhibits.
- Celebrate the stories of the people that lived on the land throughout history, and bring to light those stories that are not often heard.

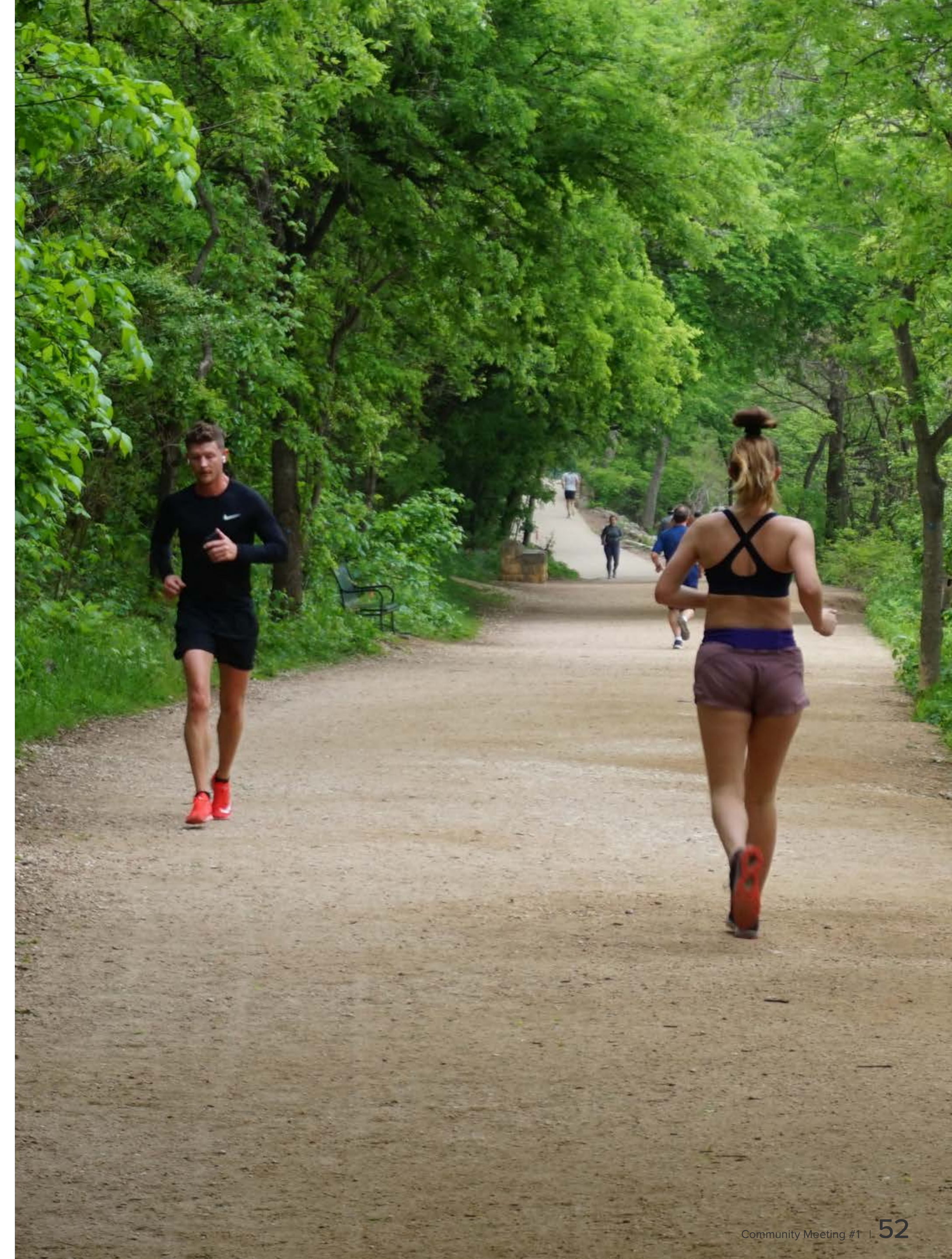


GOALS



Accessibility

- Ensure there are multiple safe, enjoyable, and convenient modes of transportation to access the park.
- Improve non-automobile mode access to, from, and within the park, in support of the ambitious mode split and climate goals within Austin City policy (ASMP, Climate Action Plan).
- Improve pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular circulation.
- Examine the surrounding trail network.
- Improve the wayfinding to and from different park destinations.
- Use transportation assets efficiently, so as to preserve park space for ecological and recreation systems.



GOALS



Sustainability

- Implement adaptive management strategies to create a resilient landscape in the face of climate change and dynamic user needs.
- As an urban park, Zilker should achieve balance between metropolitan use and ecological/environmental.
- Balance revenue needs with operations and maintenance of the park.
- Provide equitable opportunities for access to the park and the enjoyment of amenities.
- Explore public/private partnerships that extend the reach of the Parks Department to accommodate new opportunities.
- Sustain the implementation and maintenance of the park and utilize the support of volunteers.

